

SUMMER 2016

SNEAK PEEK

Needham Park and Recreation

Volume 3, Issue 1
January 25th, 2016

KEEP CALM—ONLY 6 MONTHS UNTIL SUMMER!

As the ice finally begins to freeze in Needham, we are happy to share our warm thoughts for this upcoming summer and some information about our **AMAZING** summer programs!

All Park and Recreation staff members are **trained** for the work that they do and, among many topics, are taught two major rules; (1) all participants, volunteers and staff must feel safe physically and emotionally and (2) no

adult behaviors are permitted with participants or volunteers.

We *anticipate* our summer season to be **June 27nd—August 18th, 2016**. Since many of our programs are held at schools and some of our staff attend Needham schools, our program start dates depend on when the last day of school is.

Spring Special Events

Looking for something to tide you over until summer? Join us for one of our **Take a Hikes!** On Saturday, March 26th, we'll head over to the NEW Rail Trail. Saturday, April 9th, we'll be checking out the improved Newman Trail. On Saturday, April 30th, we'll take a hike around Rosemary on the Rosemary Trail. All hikes run from 10:00-11:30am and are open to all ages and friendly, leashed dogs.

Needham is a pretty amazing place to live and play, but we all need to do our part to keep it clean! Grab your family and join your friends and neighbors for our annual **Spring**

Town-Wide Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 2nd! We'll spread across Needham with trash bags cleaning up the Town from the harsh winter. Last year we collected over 1,000 lbs. of trash! Let's see if we can beat that this year!

The fish will be biting for our annual **Fishing Derby** on Saturday, May 7th! Grab your fishing pole (or borrow one from us) and join us 9:00am—12:00pm; we'll have the bait waiting for you! This event is perfect for fishing enthusiasts or those just wanting to try it out for the first time!

Ever wonder what it would be like to climb into a sewer truck, an excavator, or a front-end loader? Little kids (and kids at heart) are invited to explore the Town of Needham's DPW trucks at **Touch the Trucks** on Saturday, May 14th from 10:00am—12:00pm.

Be sure to check out the Winter/Spring Brochure on the Park and Recreation website (www.needhamma.gov/parkandrecreation) with all of our great programs going on now! They'll keep you moving and summer will be here before you know it!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Ages 3—12	2
Tennis Programs	3
Ages 7-13	3
Volunteer Program	4
Rosemary Pool	4
Employment	4

Summer Special Events

We've booked the best bands around for this summer's **Arts in the Parks** summer concert series! Grab your picnic basket, lawn chairs, and friends on Thursday nights starting at 7pm, July 7th—August 11th and enjoy some music under the stars!

For the younger generation, come

laugh, dance, and wiggle at **Children's Fun Nights!** We'll have crazy, silly, and zany themed games and activities to play and do, both in and out of the water!

With the warm summer temperatures, everyone always needs a great place to cool off! Head over to Rosemary Pool on Friday nights for **Friday Family**

We can't wait for summer and we bet you can't wait either!

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Mini-Evergreen Adventure

Our **Mini-Evergreen Adventure** program has been a part of the Park and Recreation family for 30 years! This program welcomes children **ages 3—5**. Our staff members are specifically selected to work with this age group creating fun and challenging activities. Participants spend time both indoors and outside with sample activities such as story telling, dancing, playground time, mini-Olympics and craft activities using a variety of mediums and textures. Parents are invited to a show at the end of each weekly session to see some of the activities of the week! Register for one-week, half day morning (9am—12pm) or half-day afternoon (1pm-4pm) sessions. All sessions will be located at **Broadmeadow Elementary School**.



KidzArt

The **KidzArt** program is for children **ages 4—7** who love to create. Sample activities include fabric art, paper mache, mosaics, painting, sand art and drawing. As with all of our programs, many activities utilize recyclable materials that children can find in their own homes and many of the projects can be used for continued play. During this program, we also have a creative break for story time and outdoor play. Parents are invited to a show at the end of each weekly session to see the children's gallery of masterpieces! Register for one-week, half-day morning (9am—12pm) or half-day afternoon (1pm—4pm) sessions. All sessions will be located at **Broadmeadow Elementary School**.

Cricketeer Adventure

It's been about 30 years since the first participants became known as 'The Cricketeers' at our **Cricketeer Adventure** program. Participants at this program are **ages 5—8**, and try a little bit of everything from active games on the field, quiet games in the shade, and arts and crafts on the Cricket House porch. Sample activities include relay races, blob tag, Steve Dodgeball, capture the flag, and circle games. Register for one-week, full day (9am—4pm), half-day morning half-day (9am—12pm), or half-day afternoon (1pm—4pm) sessions. All sessions will be located at **Cricket Field**.



Summer Playground

The **Summer Playground** program is the **ORIGINAL** Needham Park and Recreation program! This eight week program is open from 9am—4pm, and families choose when to attend. Some attend for just a few hours a week and others attend everyday for the full day! This program is for participants **ages 5—10**, and the staff members insure that age appropriate activities are scheduled! Participants will have choices between active games, quiet games, crafts and imaginative play. Sample activities at Summer Playground include Jungle charades, counselor trivia, dance party, treasure relay, tie-dye, water balloon toss, 4-square and kickball. Summer Playground will be located at **Broadmeadow Elementary School** this summer.



Kids Off Broadway

Kids Off Broadway is the opportunity for our participants to share their creative side—whether you like to improv, write, create props, stage, or act, KoB has a place for you! Participants **ages 7—12** work all week to put together a live performance on Friday afternoons! The performance welcomes family and friends as well as participants from other Park and Recreation summer programs. Outdoor play is also a big part of this program to keep the creativity flowing! Register for one-week, full day (9am—4pm) sessions. All sessions will be located at **Broadmeadow Elementary School**.



Tennis Programs

Park and Recreation offers many tennis programs for all ages and all skill levels! Programs are based on the curriculum of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) with all participants having fun while they learn! **Tennis Badges** are available to residents for use of the three outdoor court locations at Needham High School, Newman Elementary School and Mills Field. Other than the scheduled Park and Recreation lessons or Needham High School tennis teams in the spring, the courts are generally available during the day. The public courts are not available for use by vendors giving private lessons. Nets will be put on the courts in mid-March, weather permitting.

Badges will go on sale on **Tuesday, March 1, 2016** at the Park and Recreation Office.



Quickstart Tennis

Quickstart Tennis is a program geared to the younger learners. The USTA has set up the program with specialized equipment and is played on courts with dimensions tailored to the age and size of the younger participants, **ages 5—7**. This program will be offered as one-hour lessons in one-week sessions. Our Quickstart Tennis lessons will be located at **Pollard Middle School**.

Needham Tennis Academy

The **Needham Tennis Academy** program is for **ages 8—13** and will encourage participants to develop skills at their own pace. Participants will play games, do drills, and have a mini-one point tournament to round out their week. In the afternoon, all participants will visit Rosemary Pool. Register for one-week, half day (9am—12pm) or full day (9am-4pm) sessions. All session will be located at **Needham High School**.



Sports Specialties

Sports Specialties is a program for **ages 7—13** where participants join a team for the week to try a variety of sports and games, and participate in friendly competitions to help develop sports related skills. Sample activities include Home Run Derby, beach volleyball, marathon kickball, soccer shoot-out, and capture the flag. This program also visits Rosemary Pool once a week. Register for one-week, full day (9am—4pm) sessions. All sessions will be located at **Pollard Middle School**.

Outdoor Living

Our **Outdoor Living Adventure** program was created in 1963 to introduce Needham youth to some of the outdoor treasures in Town. Participants **ages 9—13** will explore Ridge Hill, and play high energy, outdoor themed sports and games. There are also planned weekly trips to Rosemary Pool and the adjacent camp property for swimming, canoeing, and other outdoor activities such as archery, fishing, and trail walking. Register for one-week, full day (8:45am—3:45pm), half-day morning (8:45am—11:45am), or half-day afternoon (12:45pm—3:45pm) sessions. All sessions will be primarily located at **Ridge Hill Reservation**.



One Day and One Week Programs

Needham Park and Recreation likes to offer a variety of **one day workshops** and **one week activities**. Past options have included LEGO and American Girl Doll 3-hour workshops, archery lessons, skateboarding, and junior golf lessons. More information about these programs will be available in a future sneak peek.



ROSEMARY POOL

Rosemary Pool is Needham's public pool for both residents and non-residents. Throughout the summer we have general swim, swim lessons, host Needham Sharks Swim Team home meets and have several Family Friday Fun Nights (see front cover for more information).



Swim Lessons are held on weekday mornings in two-week (10 class) sessions for **ages 3 and up**. The instructors are certified by the American Red Cross and follow their curriculum. The Preschool Level is for **ages 3 and 4** and are 30 minutes long. Levels 1—6 begin at **age 5** and lessons are 40 minutes long.

Adaptive Aquatics is a one-on-one program for swimmers with challenges that make it difficult to learn in a group setting. Ten classes are scheduled with the family.

Individual Swim Lessons are tailored to meet the needs of each individual participant. Each class is 30 minutes in length.

General Swim is scheduled everyday from **12:30pm—7:45pm**. The pool will be open from mid-June through late August. The pool has shallow areas for young swimmers as well as deep areas, a diving area, a practice lane, lap lanes for adult swimmers and walkers and ramps to, and leading into, the pool for accessibility.



VOLUNTEERS AND EMPLOYMENT

Summer Volunteers



The **Summer Volunteer** program is one of the most popular programs offered with an average of 150 volunteers each year. The program gives youth **ages 11 and up** the opportunity to learn how to be responsible for others. A volunteer must be a minimum of 2 years older than the oldest participant at any given program.

Volunteer Program information booklets will be available on **Friday, April 1st** with registration beginning on **Wednesday, April 6th from 5pm—6:30pm** and will continue during normal business hours until **Tuesday, May 31st**.

Please note that a completed application, including both the volunteers signature as well as a parental signature, is REQUIRED for registration.

Volunteers at **Rosemary Pool** will be an Instructor Aide during our swim lessons for a two—week half day morning session. Basic swimming skills are required. Volunteers at the **Summer Programs** will register for a one-week, half-day (morning or afternoon) session totaling 15 hours a week with the possibility of additional hours.

Summer Employment



Park and Recreation is looking for **enthusiastic** and **responsible** applicants that **enjoy working with children!**

We are seeking **Program Counselors**, **Rosemary Lifeguards**, and **Rosemary Swim Instructors** for this summer. Our summer season is from **late June—late August** with staff trainings in **late May—late June**. Employees must be **16 years or older** by June 15th. All Lifeguards must have Red Cross Lifeguard Certification and all Swim Instructors must have Red Cross Water Safety Certification. Email **Robyn Fink (rfink@needhamma.gov)** if you have questions about the certifications.

Applications are available on the Park and Recreation website (www.needhamma.gov/index.aspx?nid=725) or can be picked up at the Park and Recreation office!

